



From the Guest Editor

As I write this guest editorial I reflect on my life in the fishery and how technology and the human resources attached to the wild and aquaculture industries have transformed them through creative thinking, innovation and adaptation of technology.

In the wild fishery, I have observed improvements in fish finding technology, bottom mapping imagery for enhanced and less destructive fishing, improved gear design to eliminate by-catch, reduce bottom impacts and permit size selectivity. There are new and modified fuel efficient vessel designs which incorporate bulbous bows, Kort nozzles, innovative hull designs and improved propulsion systems. In recent years, new information management technologies have emerged which

allow enhanced fishery data capture and analysis to assist in directing the fishing effort as well as providing the scientific community and regulators with additional tools for stock assessment and fishery management.

The aquaculture industries continue to make strong advances in productivity through improved brood stock development which improves growth characteristics and provides better disease resistance. Larger scale farming operations offer improved economies of scale. Enhanced feed formulations in combination with improved feeding technologies provide better feed conversion ratios, reduced environmental impacts, and improved sustainability due to less dependence on marine fish oils and proteins.

The processing of both wild catch and aquaculture fisheries has been a continuously improving area of specialization. Companies such as Baader Food Processing Machinery and Marel have led the way in many improved processing technologies that enable the traditional producing countries like Canada to compete in the global market by adopting technologies to reduce costs, improve yields and enhance productivity, quality and safety of its products.

The world market demands for sustainability has in recent years created a whole new industry service sector that specializes in certification and audit. These systems cover areas such as environmental impact, stock sustainability, product safety and quality. They provide customers and regulators with third party certification and audit and are now quite common as a precursor to any sales and marketing contract.

Of course no technologies can be utilized without the highly skilled and trained individuals that work in our industries. The demand for continuous skill development and higher education is being met by leaders in the education field like the Fisheries and Marine Institute of Memorial University of Newfoundland. From the short courses offered in the field, to the specialized degree programs, they are providing the talent and future leaders required to continue to expand and improve our fisheries and aquaculture industries.

I trust that you will enjoy reading the articles in this issue as we attempt to offer you a glimpse at just a few of these areas as we explore our theme of how we are putting the 'fish' back into efficiency.

Ross Butler
Guest Editor

Ross Butler is the Vice President of Cooke Aquaculture where he is responsible for processing and harvesting operations.